

Today's News - Wednesday, August 3, 2016

- ArcSpace brings us eyefuls of "the beautiful result when wine-makers and architects team up."
- Dickinson provides us with our must-read of the day as he ponders what could be bad for architects if Trump ends up running the country, and "why politicians are even less respected than architects."
- Betsky sends a postcard from Dubai: "the city's downtown, though rapidly filling with buildings, is still short on character" - it's "trying to be a real city. It still has a long way to go."
- Lange delves deep into "the problem with believing half the world's population lives in cities," and "why holding on to that number is harming our design discourse."
- Leber considers whether historic preservation is "keeping cities from building affordable housing. The answer is, of course, complicated."
- A developer slams Save Britain's Heritage for trying to stop the demolition of the 1912 Futurist cinema and other historic buildings in Liverpool.
- Sydney has towering plans "to send the central business district skywards" (affordable housing to be included - we hope they're right).
- Kuang considers Airbnb's "first foray into urban planning" that "offers a tantalizing vision for doing well while doing good."
- Kolson Hurley minces no words about the "staggering \$1 billion" being requested to "resuscitate" DC's 40-year-old Air and Space Museum: it's "an extraordinary amount of money for a brand-new museum, let alone a renovation."
- Moore x 2: he hopes the architects chosen to transform London's historic Smithfield General Market into the new Museum of London: will "rise to the challenge," but worries "there is still a risk the chance might not be taken" to make an exceptional museum.
- He cheers new and very different piers in Hastings and Brighton: "both play Lazarus with locations that seemed doomed, and both are magnificent achievements" (one is "a giant lollipop on which the sucky bit moves up and down" - a description for the ages!).
- Wainwright gives (mostly) thumbs-up to the Brighton i360 pier: "The design is more airport" and a branding post for British Airways "than kiss-me-quick seaside fun. But by night, when it glows - it is hard to resist."
- Eyefuls of Hassell and OMA's "bold and distinctive" design for the new Western Australian Museum in Perth (historic restoration included).
- A great Q&A with McDonough re: "concepts like live-work everywhere all the time, re-use, disassembly, and the 'circular economy.'"
- Sustainability and urban rail activist Newman has a few issues with Australia's plans for high-speed rail: "At \$200 billion we'd better get it right" - but he's not all that optimistic.
- Three Dutch students launch Motown Movement and buy a house in Detroit that they're turning into "a living model" that "will help residents find affordable ways to retrofit their houses and save energy (and cash)."
- One we couldn't resist: the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Heineken team up with a crowdfunding campaign to restore Candela's Miami Marine Stadium (we might just have to go for a "Save Your Seat" t-shirt!).
- Four designs are shortlisted for French Memorial at Pukeahu National War Memorial Park in New Zealand.
- Call for entries: EOI: Upper Orwell Crossings Project for two new bridges in Ipswich, UK + Call for Papers: Between Data and Senses: Architecture, Neuroscience and the Digital Worlds for the international conference in London next March.

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[Alcoholic Architecture](#): No this post isn't implying that architectural design is aided by a few drinks...the beautiful result when wine-makers and architects team up...six of the best... -- Renzo Piano; Foster + Partners; PLANT - Atelier Peter Kis; Santiago Calatrava; Mario Botta; Herzog & de Meuron [images]

[Donald Trump as Architecture's Nightmare Client](#): ...a building insider running the country? How could that be bad for architects? Rejection of facts over ego gratification can cause a few problems on a job: whether building or being the President of the United States...he's well known to us as the developer client...The willingness to work for known fee-chiselers like Trump is a constant drain on the value of architecture. By Duo Dickinson - Common Edge

[Postcard from Dubai](#): ...the city's downtown, though rapidly filling with buildings, is still short on character...trying to be a real city. It still has a long way to go...Like most developments [in] most of the Arab Peninsula and Asia, Downtown Dubai suffers from one simple condition: Each building or set of structures has been developed as a discreet object...the task at hand should be one of infill. By Aaron Betsky [images] - Architect Magazine

[The 50 Percent Myth](#): The problem with believing half the world's population lives in cities: ...why holding on to that number is harming our design discourse...the national census bureaus on which the UN relies to supply population figures have radically different definitions of city...Though the chaos of quantification of cities should make the 50-percent-urban statistic unusable, the larger question is what the number hides. By Alexandra Lange - Curbed

[Is Historical Preservation What's Keeping Cities From Building Affordable Housing?](#) Are wealthy city dwellers preventing new development by holding on to the past? Or is there room for lots of new housing while still maintaining the character of urban landscapes? The answer is, of course, complicated. By Jessica Leber - Fast Company / Co.Exist

[Developer hits out at conservationists for 'wasting time and money': Save Britain's Heritage mulls appeal after legal case fails](#): ...bid to stop the demolition of the 1912 Futurist cinema and other historic buildings on Lime Street [Liverpool] was thrown out... -- Broadway Malyan [images] - BD/Building Design (UK)

[CBD boom time](#): City of Sydney says the only way is up: ...plan to send the central business district skywards...opening it to billions of dollars of commercial development. Buildings could soar to heights of 310 metres, up from the current restriction of 235 metres [to] encourage new commercial and retail spaces, and increase the supply of affordable housing. - Sydney Morning Herald

[An Exclusive Look At Airbnb's First Foray Into Urban Planning](#): ...a brand-new innovation lab called Samara, whose first project is a novel community center in Japan...to scale it to other declining small towns across the world...could become a force not only in sharing homes, but in urban planning...longer vision...find other ways to turn...architecture on its head...offers a tantalizing vision for doing well while doing good. By Cliff Kuang -- Go Hasegawa [images] - Fast Company / Co.Design

[Why Air and Space Museum Should Build Anew](#): Officials want a staggering \$1 billion to resuscitate D.C.'s busiest museum...for what it costs to buy the L.A. Lakers...The Smithsonian should consider demolishing the building and starting over. That may sound sacrilegious...But \$1 billion is an extraordinary amount of money for a brand-new museum, let alone a renovation. By Amanda Kolson Hurley -- Gyo Obata, Quinn Evans Architects - Washington City Paper (Washington, DC)

Smithfield General Market: the new Museum of London sets out its stall: After years of debate surrounding its future, London's historic [market] is to be the new home of the [museum]. But will the architects chosen to redesign the site rise to the challenge? The chance is there to make a museum exceptional...like none other...there is still a risk the chance might not be taken. By Rowan Moore -- Stanton Williams; Asif Khan; Julian Harrap; J & L Gibbons [images]- Observer (UK)

Hastings Pier; i360, Brighton - two magnificent achievements: Blue-sky thinking results in contrasting but equally ingenious projects to replace two piers on the Sussex coast: ...the best things to have happened to piers in a long time, but their approaches are almost opposite: One is a singular object...the other an outgrowth of its place and time...both play Lazarus with locations that seemed doomed, and both are magnificent achievements. By Rowan Moore -- de Rijke Marsh Morgan/dRMM; Marks Barfield Architects [images]- Observer (UK)

Brighton i360: London Eye team goes pole dancing at the seaside: It took husband-and-wife designers 13 years to get this 162m-tall 'vertical pier' built...but is it a feat of architecture or a corporate branding post? The design is more airport than kiss-me-quick seaside fun, replete with British Airways-branded deckchairs, parasols and cabin-crew uniforms...But by night, when it glows...it is hard to resist. By Oliver Wainwright -- Marks Barfield [images]- Guardian (UK)

Hassell, OMA reveal "bold and distinctive" designs of new Western Australian Museum: ...will include the restoration of several heritage-listed buildings...which are part of the existing museum, situated within the Perth Cultural Centre. [images]- ArchitectureAU (Australia)

Circular Reasoning: One to one, unplugged with Cradle to Cradle crusader Bill McDonough: Q&A re: concepts like live-work everywhere all the time, re-use, disassembly, the "circular economy," and what would make a 15-year-old excited about getting into the housing community today. - Builder magazine

High-speed rail? At \$200 billion we'd better get it right: Key issues to be overcome...project will need to show great public benefit as well as enabling the private sector to take the risk and do the investing...It completely misses all the major regional centres...seeking cheap, easily obtainable land on the urban fringe and in rural areas rather than helping our cities and country towns. By Peter Newman- The Conversation (Australia)

This Detroit House Is Being Turned Into A Living Model Of Cost-Saving Sustainable Design: Motown Movement will help residents find affordable ways to retrofit their houses and save energy (and cash): ...three architecture students in the Netherlands...partnering with local organizations to share the project with the community...project can easily be adapted for other locations. By Adele Peters [images]- Fast Company / Co.Exist

A crowdfunding campaign seeks \$100,000 to restore the Miami Marine Stadium: The National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) and Heineken have teamed up...Heineken is offering up to \$20,000 in matching funds towards the campaign's total...campaign is offering photo prints of the best graffiti art as incentives for a \$10 donation. -- Hilario Candela (1963) [images]- The Architect's Newspaper

Four designs shortlisted for French Memorial at Pukeahu National War Memorial Park in Wellington: ...inspired by a creative dialogue between France and New Zealand...competition launched by the French government... -- Patterson Associates Architects/Paul Baragwanath; Kingsley Baird/Adam Flowers (CCM Architects)/Annette Becker/Allen Wihongi/Alistair Cattinach; Andrew Sexton Architecture; Richard Ainsworth/Amanda Bulman/Nick Denton/Hamish Moorhead/Jake Yocum/Nicolas Zilliox [images]- French Memorial at Pukeahu National War Memorial Park

Call for entries: Expressions of Interest/EOI: Upper Orwell Crossings Project, Ipswich, UK (international): two new crossings, and refurbishment of an existing swing bridge; shortlist to receive £10,000 honorarium; deadline is September 1- RIBA Competitions

Call for entries: Call for Papers: Between Data and Senses: Architecture, Neuroscience and the Digital Worlds international conference, London, March 2017; deadline: September 15- University of East London / Arup / Museum of Architecture

When Architecture Meets Art: Some say Architecture is the mother of all arts while others say that it is just the slowest. But what happens when Art and Architecture collide? -- Grayson Perry/FAT Architecture; Herzog & de Meuron/Ai Weiwei; Henning Larsen Architects/Olafur Eliasson; HASSELL/Ned Kahn; Peter Zumthor/Louise Bourgeois; Ryue Nishizawa/SANAA/Rei Naito [images]- ArcSpace

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